

# EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

## LILLY LEDBETTER FAIR PAY ACT OF 2009

SPEECH OF

**HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN**

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, January 9, 2009*

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Madam Speaker, I rise in strong support of the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act and the Paycheck Fairness Act. As an original cosponsor of both pieces of legislation, I will proudly cast my vote for both bills before us today.

The Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act corrects an errant Supreme Court decision in the case of Ledbetter v. Goodyear, which denied a woman named Lilly Ledbetter equal pay for equal work by ruling that she had only 180 days from her first discriminatory paycheck to file her claim, whether she was aware of that discrimination or not. This legislation will help ensure fair treatment in the workplace by clarifying that every paycheck resulting from a discriminatory pay decision constitutes a new violation of employment discrimination law.

The Paycheck Fairness Act will complement the Ledbetter bill by plugging loopholes that have been used to weaken enforcement of the Equal Pay Act. This legislation will ensure that employers have a job-related reason for any disparity in pay. It also protects from retaliation employees who discuss salary matters and puts gender discrimination on equal footing with other forms of wage discrimination when it comes to seeking damages.

Madam Speaker, while we have made important strides towards gender equality in our Nation, American women still make only 78 cents for every dollar earned by their male counterparts for equal work. Together, these bills will bring us closer to America's promise of workplace equality for all of our citizens.

HONORING JOHN MANIATAKIS

**HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 13, 2009*

Mr. RADANOVICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate John Maniatakis upon his retirement as the vice president of NI Industries, Incorporated in Los Angeles, CA. Mr. Maniatakis is retiring at the beginning of 2009 after a 50-year career.

Mr. Maniatakis was born on April 4, 1936. He graduated from Babson College, in Massachusetts, with a bachelor of science degree in economics in 1958. Upon graduating from college, he went to work for Hesse-Eastern, a division of Flightex Fabric Industries, as a contract coordinator. One year later he was assigned to Lone Star Ordnance Plant where he was responsible for overseeing production of the LAW system at the load and assembly facility. In 1961, Mr. Maniatakis returned to Bos-

ton and was quickly transferred to New Jersey and assigned as the field product assurance representative, handling field problems relative to the production of LAW components.

Throughout his professional career Mr. Maniatakis furthered his education by obtaining various degrees. In addition to attending Babson College, he received his master's degree from Boston University in 1960. The company sponsored his education, and he was able to complete programs from Northwestern University (metallurgy), Newark College of Engineering, Division of Technology (math and metallurgy), William and Mary University (contract law) and University of Southern California, Graduate School of Business (Executive Management Policy Institute). Through his education he was able to advance his career.

In 1965, Hesse-Eastern was acquired by NI Industries, Incorporated. Mr. Maniatakis stayed with the company and worked with the U.S. Army as an ordnance sales engineer at Picatinny, Frankfurt and Edgewood Arsenal. He was responsible for all contract and sub-contract activity. In 1967 he was assigned to Washington, DC APSA and acted as a liaison between the customer and the Vernon Division of NI Industries, Inc. Just 2 years after this assignment, Mr. Maniatakis was transferred to Los Angeles, CA and became the marketing manager for sales and marketing. It is through this position that he became involved with contract administration for NI Industries. He remained in that position until 1977, when Mr. Maniatakis was promoted to the position of vice president, Sales and Marketing. One year later, he was given additional responsibility for contract administration and international sales. In 1984, he was appointed to the position of vice president of NI Foreign Military Sales Corporation.

Mr. Maniatakis is involved with many organizations. He is a longtime member of the American Defense Preparedness Association, ADPA, and has held many positions including chairman of the Metal Parts Section of the Technical Division, board of directors past president for the Los Angeles Chapter and was a member of the advisory board of the Picatinny Chapter. He has been on the board of directors for the National Defense Industries Association, Munitions Industrial Base Task Force, Vernon Chamber of Commerce and the Advisory "LAW" Board. He was a vice president of the Association of the United States Army, AUSA, and the founder and past president of the Committees of American Ammunition Manufacturers.

Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend and congratulate John Maniatakis upon his retirement from NI Industries, Incorporated. I invite my colleagues to join me in wishing Mr. Maniatakis many years of continued success.

## A TRIBUTE TO THE GREATER SACRAMENTO URBAN LEAGUE

**HON. DORIS O. MATSUI**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 13, 2009*

Ms. MATSUI. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the Greater Sacramento Urban League's 40 years of service to the people of Sacramento. The Greater Sacramento Urban League's employment assistance and educational programs have been extremely beneficial to our youth and our community as a whole. I ask all of my colleagues to join me in honoring one of Sacramento's finest non-profit organizations as they celebrate their 40th anniversary.

Founded in 1968 the Greater Sacramento Urban League is one of the 105 affiliates of the National Urban League which has locations in 36 States across our Nation. During this time the Greater Sacramento Urban League has continued to advocate to ensure that African-Americans, other minorities and the underserved become economically self-reliant and are ensured their civil rights. By cultivating relationships with communities, corporations and government agencies the Greater Sacramento Urban League has been able to provide training to thousands of youth and adults in Sacramento County.

The Greater Sacramento Urban League has been able to assist numerous Sacramentans find employment through their One Stop Career Center which provides application and resume assistance, as well as access to online resources to find employment. They also offer other employment assistance services, such as posting job openings, developing interview skills, and effective cover letter and dress-for-success tips. In addition to employment assistance, the Greater Sacramento Urban League offers emergency assistance to low income Sacramento residents that need help paying the power, rent, or phone bills. They also offer free bus service to and from appointments and G.E.D. preparation classes. In recent months they have been helping families avert foreclosure by hosting foreclosure prevention workshops. In short, the Greater Sacramento Urban League is always there for those who need them.

The Greater Sacramento Urban League offers many programs that benefit Sacramento's youth as well. They offer after school tutoring to assist students with their homework and improve their math and reading skills. Their Sacramento Urban Youth Empowerment Program provides at-risk youths with tutoring, mentoring, job readiness training, youth employment placement, and basic computer skills to better prepare them for higher education and employment opportunities. For all of their efforts, the Greater Sacramento Urban League was awarded the national 2005 EPIC Award for Exemplary Public Interest Contribution by the United States Department of Commerce. The Greater Sacramento Urban League has

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Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

prospered for the last 16 years under the excellent leadership of James Shelby who was instrumental in raising the funds needed to build its current home. With the leadership of Mr. Shelby and chairwoman Susan Irwin, I am confident the Greater Sacramento Urban League will continue to provide invaluable programs for our community.

Madam Speaker, I am honored to pay tribute to the Greater Sacramento Urban League's distinguished commitment to our community and Sacramento's residents. The Greater Sacramento Urban League's dedication to equality, civil rights and workforce development has helped thousands of Sacramentans when they most needed it. We all are thankful for their efforts. As the Greater Sacramento Urban League's employees and partners gather to celebrate 40 years of service to the Sacramento region, I ask all my colleagues to join me in wishing them continued success in the future.

#### RECOGNIZING ISRAEL'S RIGHT TO DEFEND ITSELF AGAINST ATTACKS FROM GAZA

SPEECH OF

**HON. TODD TIAHRT**

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, January 9, 2009*

Mr. TIAHRT. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Res. 34, a resolution recognizing Israel's right to defend itself against attacks from Gaza, reaffirming the United States' strong support for Israel, and supporting the Israeli-Palestinian peace process. I applaud Speaker PELOSI and Leader BOEHNER for bringing this resolution to the floor.

We stand in solidarity with those praying for real and lasting peace and an end to the terrorism brought upon the people of Israel. I am confident the acts of aggression carried out by those seeking the destruction of the State of Israel will not end in success. Peace will come to the land of Israel once again.

Born out of genocide and conflict, the modern State of Israel has developed into a free, democratic and prosperous country. I have been to Israel several times and I have seen how they make the desert bloom. I have witnessed their corporate compassion to take care of people in need. I have heard their pleas for peace. An unfailing ally of the United States, Israel is a beacon of freedom and religious tolerance in the Middle East.

Israel understands the dangers of terrorism all too well. From suicide bombers to thousands of incoming rockets and mortar shells, the people of Israel have experienced mass casualties of enormous and unacceptable proportions.

As Israel currently undertakes military efforts in Gaza, I stand with the Israeli Government and the Jewish community as they seek to establish peace and protect its citizens from terrorism. Hamas and radical Islam must be defeated.

No nation can sit idly by while its people are killed, its children are traumatized, and the daily life of its people is severely disrupted by terrorism. Ask yourself, would America tolerate more than 3,000 rockets launched against our homeland in just 1 year? No, we would protect our people. Israel has the responsibility to pro-

tect its citizens, as well, and that is what it is doing in on-going operations in Gaza.

Americans look forward to peace in Israel and the Middle East, but until Hamas and its terrorist allies relinquish its arms and renounce violence, the hope for peace can not be attained.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this important resolution.

CONGRATULATING GREGORIO KILILI CAMACHO SABLÁN ON HIS ELECTION AS THE FIRST DELEGATE TO CONGRESS FROM THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

**HON. MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO**

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 13, 2009*

Ms. BORDALLO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Mr. Gregorio Kilili Camacho Sablan on his historic election as the first Delegate to Congress from the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI). His election comes twenty-two years after the U.S. Government first granted the residents of the CNMI U.S. Citizenship and 12 years after my predecessor, Congressman Robert A. Underwood, introduced the first bill to provide for a CNMI Delegate in the 104th Congress. Born on the island of Saipan on January 19, 1955, Mr. Sablan graduated from Marianas High School and attended the University of Guam, the University of California, Berkeley, and the University of Hawaii at Manoa.

Mr. Sablan has a long record of public service to the people of the CNMI beginning with his election to the third Commonwealth Legislature in the CNMI House of Representatives. While in that office, he worked with the Assistant Secretary of the Interior to secure funding for the CNMI. Mr. Sablan returns to the halls of Congress as a Delegate after previously working as a Special Assistant to Senator Daniel Inouye of Hawaii. Mr. Sablan then returned to the CNMI to work as a Special Assistant for Management and Budget under Governor Froilan Tenorio and most recently, he worked as the Executive Director of the Election Commission.

This historic event for the people of the CNMI and the U.S. Congress marks the first time the CNMI will have representation in the U.S. House of Representatives. The 110th Congress passed legislation that was signed into law by the President on May 8, 2008, and that among its other provisions, authorized the election to Congress of a CNMI Delegate (Title VII of U.S. Public Law 110-229). The addition of the CNMI Delegate seat marks the first time membership in the House has expanded since Congress provided for the election of a Delegate to represent American Samoa in 1980. The addition of the CNMI Delegate seat brings the total number of Delegates representing the territories and the District of Columbia in the House of Representatives to six.

As a neighbor in the Western Pacific and a fellow territorial Delegate, I welcome my new colleague, Mr. Sablan, to Washington, D.C. as the first Delegate to represent the CNMI in Congress. The historically close ties between

the people of Guam and the people of the CNMI will provide for a solid foundation on which to work together toward common goals in Washington, D.C. I look forward to strengthening these ties with Mr. Sablan and working together toward sensible and effective Federal government in the Mariana Islands. This momentous occasion renews the promise of the founding principles of American democracy, that of representative government by its citizens. As we move forward in the 111th Congress, I extend my warmest welcome and congratulations to the people of the CNMI.

BAY PINES VA HEALTHCARE SYSTEM RECOGNIZED NATIONALLY FOR EXCELLENCE IN SERVICE

**HON. C. W. BILL YOUNG**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 13, 2009*

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. Madam Speaker, the Bay Pines VA Healthcare System, which I have the honor and privilege to represent, has been honored by the Department of Veterans Affairs with the very prestigious Robert W. Carey Performance Excellence Award.

This is the highest honor given to a medical facility by the Department of Veterans Affairs and recognizes organizational excellence which translates in the highest quality of care for our nation's veterans and in this case those who receive their medical care through Bay Pines.

This award confirms what I have always known—that the dedicated staff and volunteers at Bay Pines are the best in the VA system and provide our veterans with the quality of care we would expect and they so richly deserve.

The Bay Pines VA Healthcare System is the 4th busiest of the 153 VA Medical Centers and provides services to 94,000 veterans per year at the Bay Pines medical center and at nine linked clinics. Based on the VA's performance criteria, including customer satisfaction surveys, Bay Pines ranks first among like sized facilities nationwide, first among Florida VA facilities, and fourth best in the nation for quality of care, access to care and customer satisfaction.

Bay Pines is the only facility in Florida to receive the Carey Award, which is based on the Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Criteria used by thousands of government and private organizations worldwide to assess and improve performance.

Wallace M. Hopkins, the Director of the Bay Pines VA Healthcare System, leads a team of dedicated health care professionals and selfless volunteers who care for our veterans. They continually strive to improve the quality of care our veterans receive and are working on several projects which my colleagues and I on the Appropriations Subcommittee on Veterans Affairs have supported. These include the opening of a new and larger emergency room that will more than double the capacity for emergency care for veterans including emergency mental healthcare; a new radiation oncology center to provide veterans with state-of-the-art cancer treatment; a mental health center of excellence to include inpatient, outpatient and PTSD programs; a new and larger eye care clinic; and a new and larger ambulatory surgery center.